Public Notice

Applicant: Date:

New York State Department of Published: February 3, 2003

Transportation Expires: March 4, 2003

U.S. Army Corps

of Engineers In Reply Refer To:

Buffalo District CELRB-TD-R RE: 2003-00116(0) Section: NY 404

Application for Permit under Authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), 107 Broadway, Hornell, New York 14843 has applied for a Department of the Army (DA) permit to discharge fill material associated with channel work and bridge replacement in McDuffy Creek located at the Route 224 bridge, in the Town of Van Etten, Chemung County, New York.

The NYSDOT proposes to replace the existing Route 224 bridge on the same alignment. The new structure will have a longer span increasing the hydraulic opening. Temporary cofferdams will be installed surrounding the existing abutements prior to their removal. A temporary detour bridge will be installed to the north of the existing structure during construction. The temporary bridge will not entail a discharge of fill material into a water of the US and is therefore not regulated.

The McDuffy Creek channel has a history of scour problems at this location. In 1997, The NYSDOT installed a steel sheetpile check dam downstream of the bridge to protect the structure from scour damage. A DA permit was not required for this activity since it did not involve a discharge of fill. The check dam reduced the velocity of the stream causing a large amount of deposition to occur under and The NYSDOT proposes to remove 3159 cubic upstream of the bridge. yards of accumulated material from the stream channel beginning at the existing check dam to a point approximately 525 feet upstream. The checkdam will be removed via cutting it off or driving it down to the downstream bottom elevation. The removal of this check dam is not a regulated activity. A total of approximately 704 feet of stream channel will be regraded during the excavation activity to adjust the thalweg (deepest part of the stream channel) location to the center of the channel.

A total of approximately 1394 cubic yards of heavy stone fill will be placed below ordinary high water to stabilize the stream banks.

Approximately 492 feet of the west bank will be stabilized with this heavy stone fill, including 144 feet of existing riprap. About 597 feet of the east bank will be stabilized with this heavy stone fill, including 161 feet of existing riprap. The NYSDOT proposes to use a berm of material from the existing stream channel to isolate the heavy stone work from McDuffy Creek. In addition, three rock drop structures or check dams will be installed about 200 feet upstream of the bridge. The rock drop structures will require 93 cubic yards of heavy stone fill. Finally, a steel sheet pile checkdam driven to the finished streambed elevation will be installed upstream of the rock drop structures to maintain the stream profile should the rock structures fail. Installation of the steel checkdam is not a regulated activity.

The NYSDOT has indicated that the purpose of the channel work is necessary to protect the new bridge structure from scour and erosion.

The NYSDOT has indicated that natural stream design techniques were thoroughly investigated for use in this stream but were determined to be inadequate since they would be destroyed by a greater than 5-year flood flow.

Location and details of the above described work are shown on the attached maps and drawings.

Questions pertaining to the work described in this notice should be directed to Bridget E. Brown, who can be contacted by calling (315) 255-8090, or by e-mail at: bridget.brown@usace.army.mil

The following authorization(s) may be required for this project:

Water Quality Certification (or waiver thereof) from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

There are no registered historic properties or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that will be affected by this project.

In addition, available evidence indicates that the proposed work will not affect a species proposed or designated by the U.S. Department of the Interior as threatened or endangered, nor will it affect the critical habitat of any such species.

This notice is promulgated in accordance with Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, parts 320-330. Any interested party desiring to comment on the work described herein may do so by submitting their comments, in writing, so that they are received no later than 4:30 pm on the expiration date of this notice.

Comments should be sent to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, 7413 County House Road, Auburn, New York 13021, and should be marked to the attention of Bridget E. Brown, or by e-mail at: bridget.brown@usace.army.mil. A lack of response will be interpreted as meaning that there is no objection to the work as proposed.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be fully considered during the public interest review for this permit application. All written comments will be made a part of the administrative record which is available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act. The Administrative Record, or portions thereof may also be posted on a Corps of Engineers internet web site. Due to resource limitations, this office will normally not acknowledge the receipt of comments or respond to individual letters of comment.

Any individual may request a public hearing by submitting their written request, stating the specific reasons for holding a hearing, in the same manner and time period as other comments.

Public hearings for the purposes of the Corps permit program will be held when the District Commander determines he

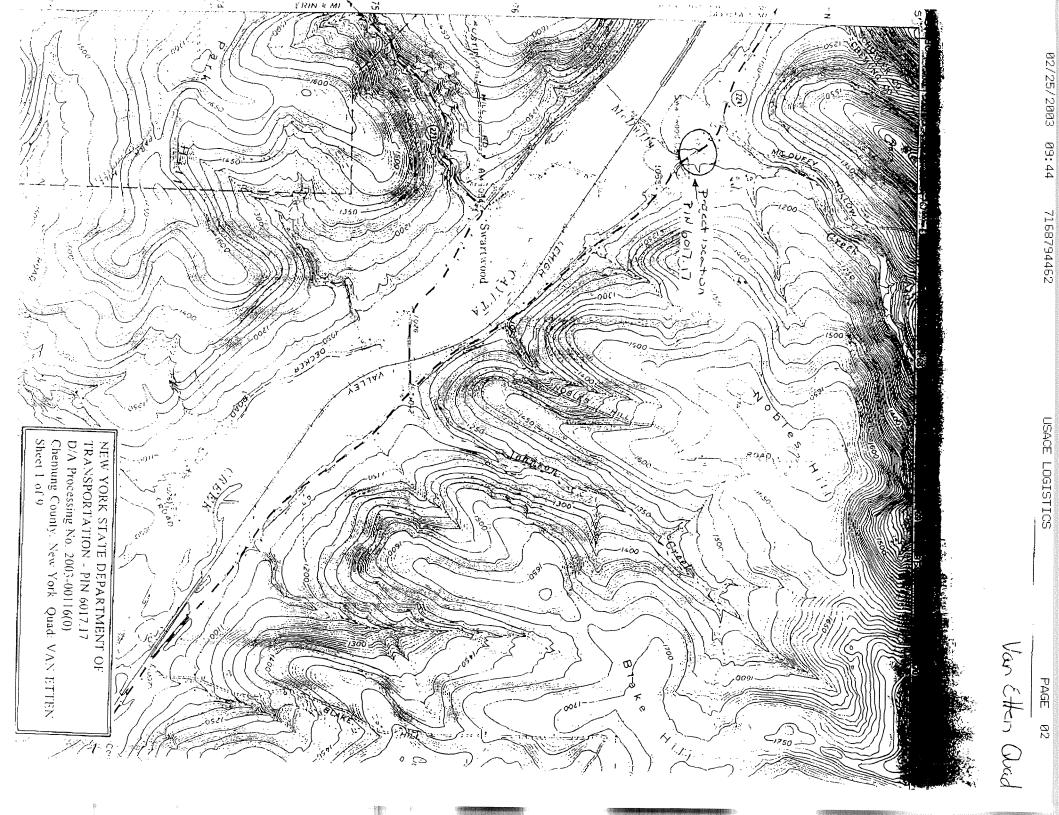
can obtain additional information, not available in written comments, that will aid him in the decision making process for this application. A Corps hearing is not a source of information for the general public, nor a forum for the resolution of issues or conflicting points of view (witnesses are not sworn and cross examination is prohibited). Hearings will not be held to obtain information on issues unrelated to the work requiring a permit, such as property ownership, neighbor disputes, or the behavior or actions of the public or applicant on upland property not regulated by the Department of the Army. Information obtained from a public hearing is given no greater weight than that obtained from written comments. Therefore, you should not fail to make timely written comments because a hearing might be held.

The decision to approve or deny this permit request will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Paul G. Leuchner Chief, Regulatory Branch

NOTICE TO POSTMASTER: It is requested that this notice be posted continuously and conspicuously for 30 days from the date of issuance.



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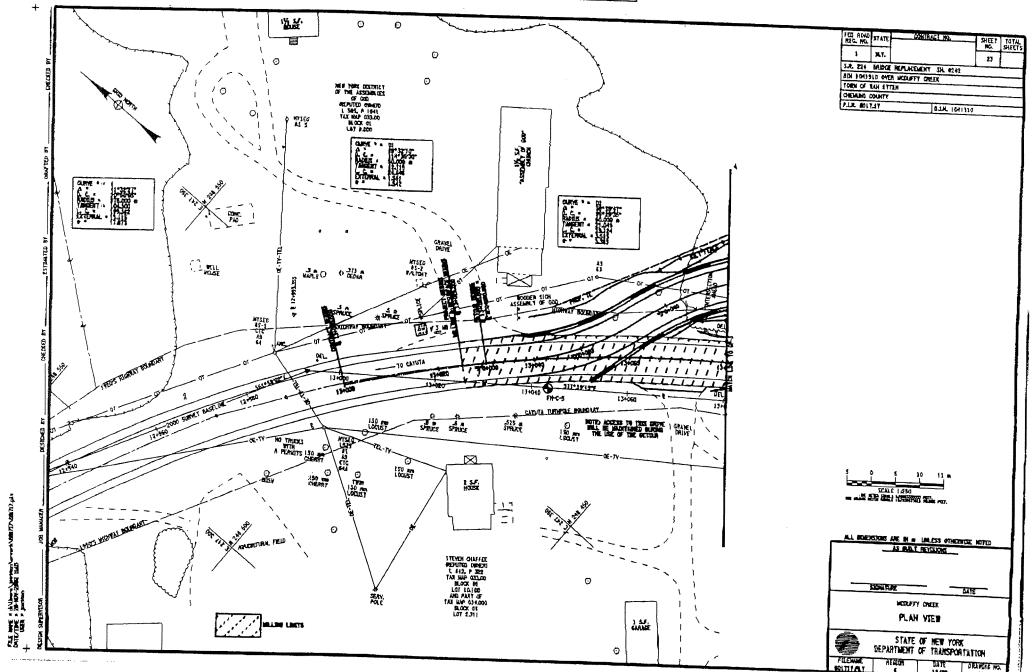
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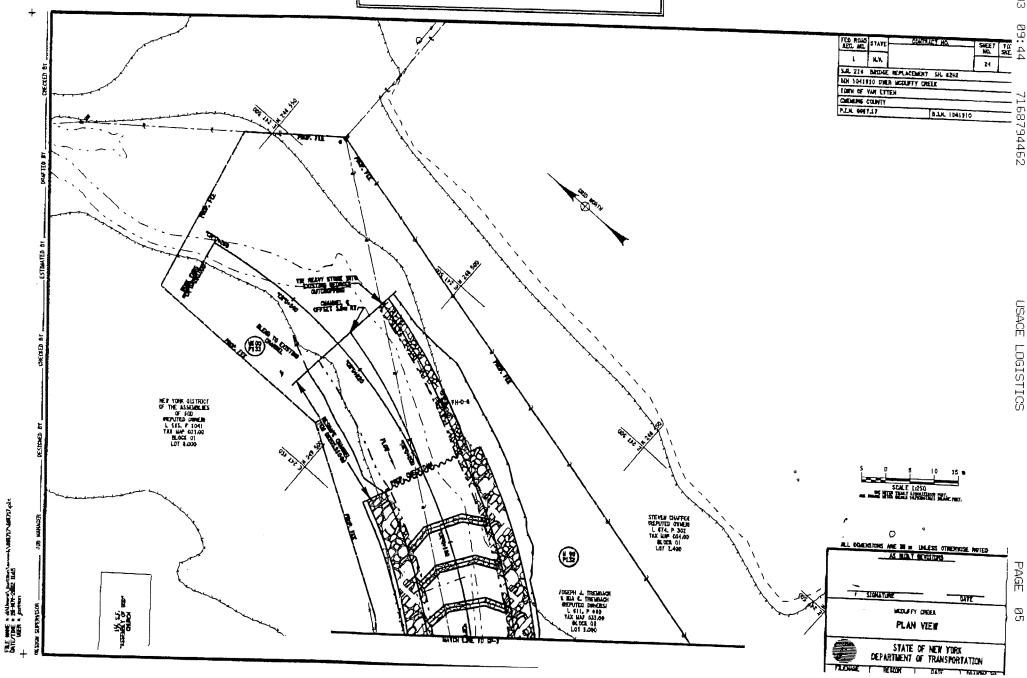
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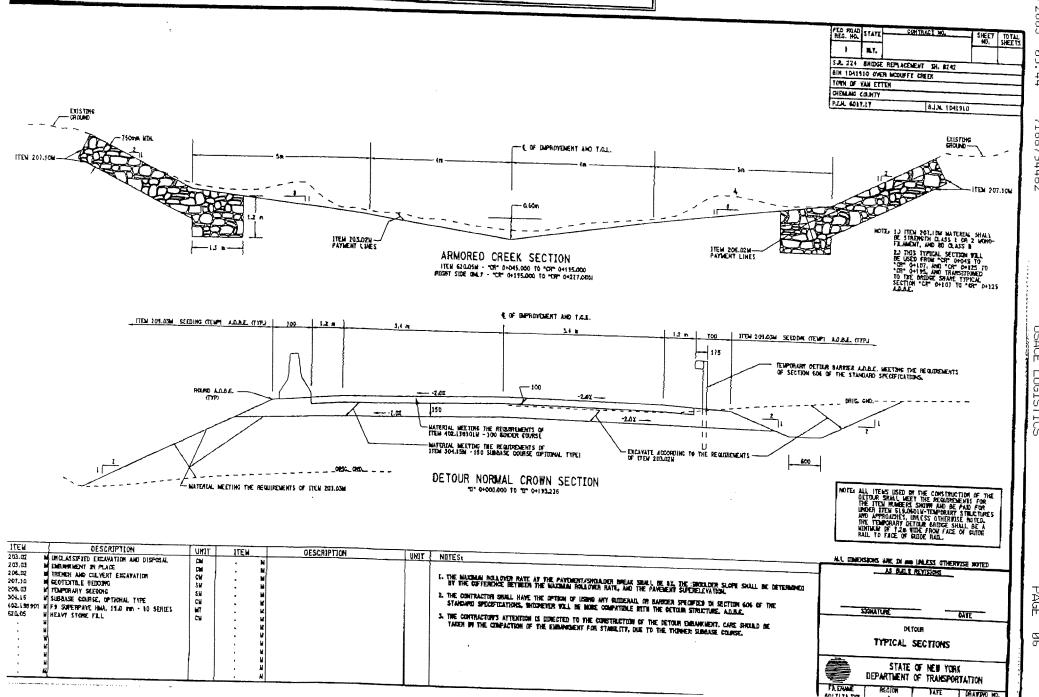
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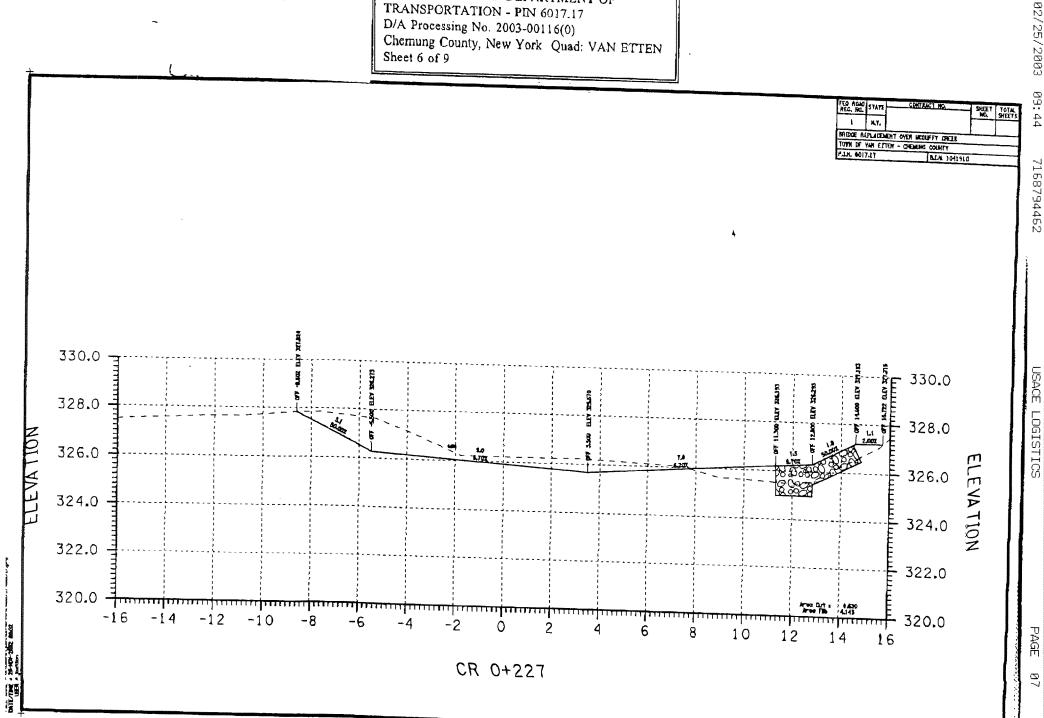


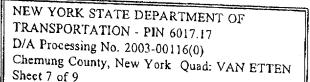
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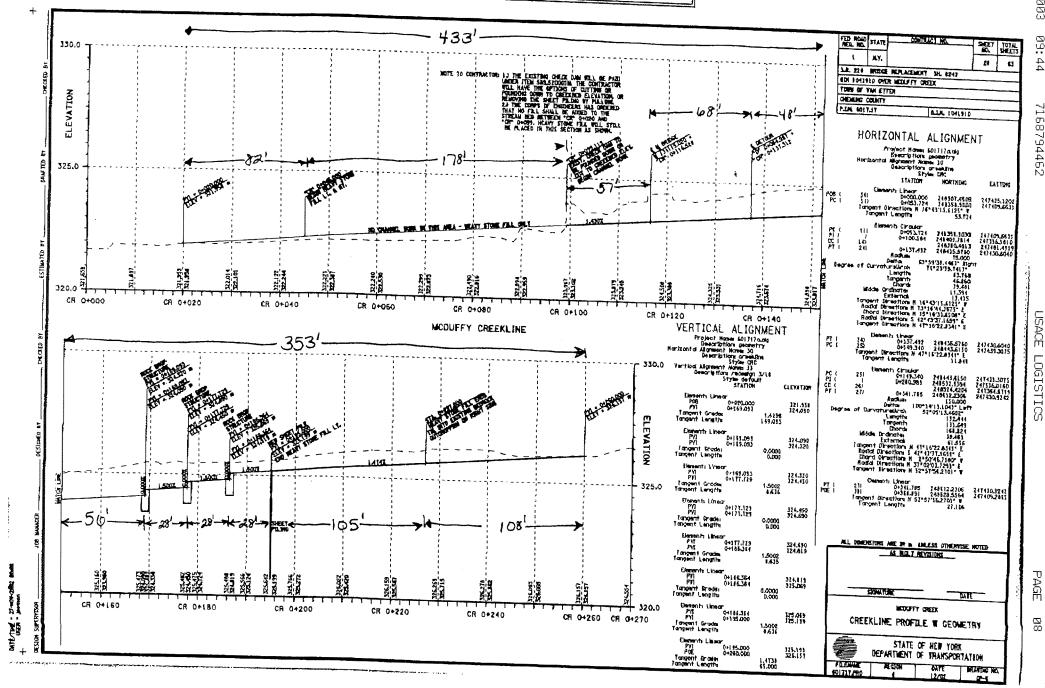
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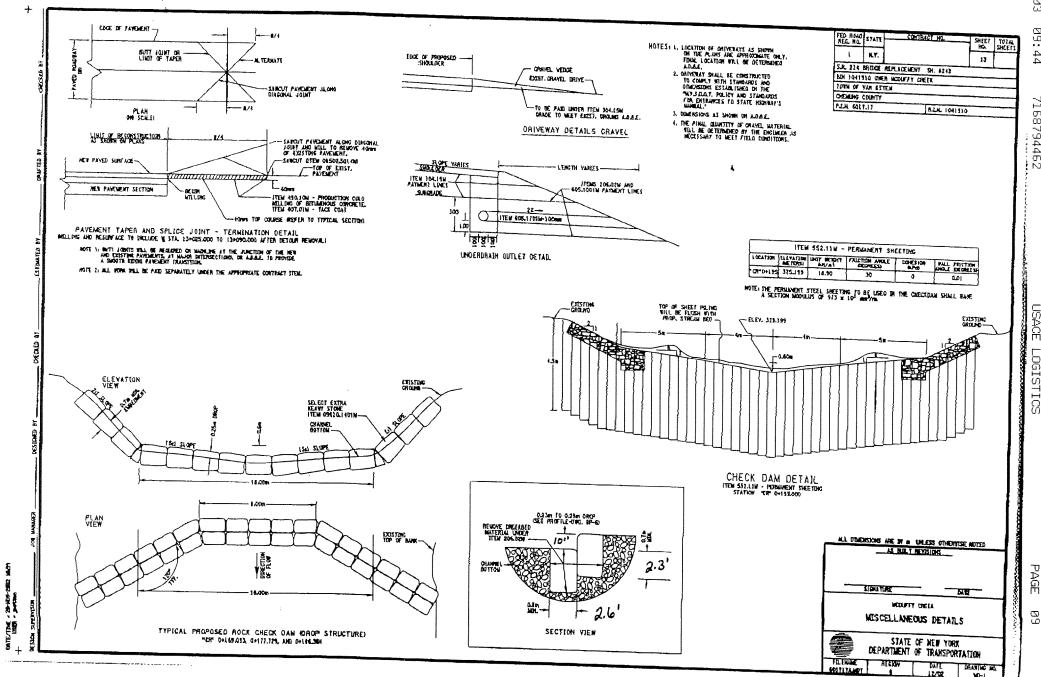




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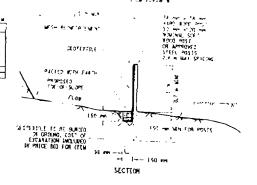
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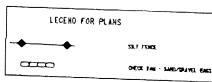


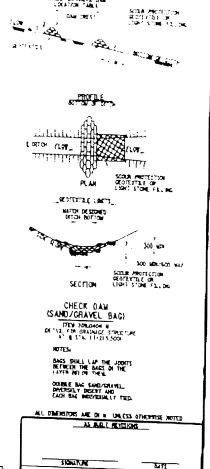
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- h. Complete containing channel work

The NYSDOT recognizes that the work necessary to complete this bridge replacement project could be seconstructed in different sequence than what is shown. Should the Contractor choice a different sequence of operations, they shall provide to the FIC a proposed mothod of soil erosion control measures prior to the beginning of work

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TEMP. EROSION CONTROL DETAILS

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